

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A thermoplastic polymer composition, comprising:

(i) an alkyl ester of (meth) acrylic acid copolymer (I), having a number average molecular weight of not less than 100,000; and

(ii) a block copolymer (II) having a polymer block (1) of a block copolymer, which may be hydrogenated, of an aromatic vinyl compound polymer block (a-1) and a conjugated diene polymer block (b-1), and a polymer block (2) of a polyurethane,

wherein the weight ratio of the alkyl ester of (meth) acrylic acid copolymer (I) based on the block copolymer (II), falls between 60/40 and 0.1/99.9.

Claim 2 (Original): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 1, further comprising a thermoplastic polyurethane (III).

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 1 or 2, further comprising a block copolymer (IV), which may be hydrogenated, having an aromatic vinyl compound polymer block (a-2) and a conjugated diene compound polymer block (b-2).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~, further comprising a paraffin oil (V).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~, further comprising a thermal decomposition type foaming agent (VI).

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A molded article, comprising the thermoplastic polymer composition of claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~.

Claim 7 (Original): The molded article according to claim 6, which is a foam.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A composite article, comprising a member, ~~comprising of~~ the thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~; and a member of another material.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A composite article, comprising a member, having a foam structure, of the thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~; and a member of another material.

Claim 10 (Original): A method for producing a foam, comprising the step of subjecting the thermoplastic polymer composition of claim 5 to melt-extruding and foaming.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A method for producing a composite article, comprising the step of compounding a foam of the thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~, with another material.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A method for producing a composite article, comprising the step of subjecting a composite article, comprising an unfoamed member of the thermoplastic polymer composition of claim 5 and a member of another material, to heating to effect foaming of the unfoamed member.

Claim 13 (Original): A method for producing a composite article, comprising the step of subjecting the thermoplastic polymer composition of claim 5 and another material to co-extrusion and foaming.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A laminate structure, comprising:
a fibrous substrate;
a foam of the thermoplastic polymer composition according claim 1, ~~to any one of claims 1 to 5~~ arranged on the fibrous substrate; and
a nonporous layer of a thermoplastic elastomer arranged on the foam.

Claim 15 (Original): The laminate structure according to claim 14, wherein the nonporous layer has an uneven pattern and/or a mirror pattern on its surface.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A method for producing the laminate structure of claim 14, comprising the steps of:

subjecting ~~a the~~ thermoplastic polymer composition ~~of claim 5~~ to melt-extrusion and foaming to give a first film;

subjecting said first film to press bonding onto a surface of a fibrous substrate, while said first film keeps flowability, to give a first laminate structure having a foam on the surface of said fibrous substrate;

subjecting a thermoplastic elastomer to melt-extrusion to give a second film; and

subjecting the second film to press bonding onto the surface of the foam of the first laminate structure, while said second film keeps flowability, to form a nonporous layer on the surface of the foam of the first laminate structure, and

wherein the thermoplastic polymer composition comprises:

(i) an alkyl ester of (meth) acrylic acid copolymer (I), having a number average molecular weight of not less than 100,000; and

(ii) a block copolymer (II) having a polymer block (1) of a block copolymer, which may be hydrogenated, of an aromatic vinyl compound polymer block (a-1) and a conjugated diene polymer block (b-1), and a polymer block (2) of a polyurethane,

(iii) a thermal decomposition type foaming agent (VI), and

wherein the weight ratio of the alkyl ester of (meth) acrylic acid copolymer (I) based on the block copolymer (II), falls between 60/40 and 0.1/99.9.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A method for producing the laminate structure of claim 15, comprising the steps of:

subjecting ~~a the~~ thermoplastic polymer composition of ~~claim 5~~ to melt-extrusion and foaming to give a first film;

subjecting said first film to press bonding onto a surface of a fibrous substrate, while said first film keeps flowability, to give a first laminate structure having a foam on the surface of said fibrous substrate;

subjecting a thermoplastic elastomer to melt-extrusion to give a second film; and

subjecting the second film to press bonding onto the surface of the foam of the first laminate structure, while said second film keeps flowability, to form a nonporous layer on the surface of the foam of the first laminate structure,

wherein an uneven pattern and/or a mirror pattern is formed on the surface of said nonporous layer by embossing the surface of said nonporous layer, while said nonporous layer keeps flowability, and

wherein the thermoplastic polymer composition comprises:

(i) an alkyl ester of (meth) acrylic acid copolymer (I), having a number average molecular weight of not less than 100,000; and

(ii) a block copolymer (II) having a polymer block (1) of a block copolymer, which may be hydrogenated, of an aromatic vinyl compound polymer block (a-1) and a conjugated diene polymer block (b-1), and a polymer block (2) of a polyurethane,

(iii) a thermal decomposition type foaming agent (VI), and

wherein the weight ratio of the alkyl ester of (meth) acrylic acid copolymer (I) based on the block copolymer (II), falls between 60/40 and 0.1/99.9.

Claim 18 (New): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 2, further comprising a block copolymer (IV), which may be hydrogenated, having an aromatic vinyl compound polymer block (a-2) and a conjugated diene compound polymer block (b-2).

Claim 19 (New): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 2, further comprising a paraffin oil (V).

Claim 20 (New): The thermoplastic polymer composition according to claim 2, further comprising a thermal decomposition type foaming agent (VI).